

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE IMMEDIATE

UNCLAS STATE 124768

THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE SENT TO SECSTATE INFO KINSHASA

BUJUMBURA BRUSSELS NAIROBI BUKAVU USIA WASHDC DTG O R 261810Z MAY 75

FM DAR ES SALAAM

QUOTE

UNCLAS DAR ES SALAAM 1707

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (SMUTS, SMITH AND HUNTER)

USIA FOR IBS, IPS; NAIROBI ALSO FOR VOA

SUBJECT: THREE KIDNAPPED AMERICANS: TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT
STATEMENT REJECTS DEMANDS

1. AT 1500 GMT MAY 26 TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT ISSUED OFFICIAL
STATEMENT ON DEMANDS MADE BY KIDNAPPERS. STATEMENT RELEASED
IN SWAHILI LANGUAGE; FOLLOWING IS UNOFFICIAL EMBASSY
TRANSLATION:

2. QUOTE: THE DEMANDS OF THE KIDNAPPERS OF THE FOUR STUDENTS
WHO WERE KNDNAPPED FROM THE GOMBE GAME PRESERVE REACHED THE
HANDS OF THE TANZANIAN GOVERNMENT YESTERDAY (MAY 25). THESE
DEMANDS WERE BROUGHT BY ONE OF THE STUDENTS, BARBARA SMUTS
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WHO EXPLAINED THAT SHE WAS SENT BY THE BANDITS FROM THEIR

CAMP IN ZAIRE.

THESE BANDITS, CALLING THEMSELVES THE PEOPLE REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF THE CONGO, DEMAND THE FOLLOWING:

1. THE RELEASE OF WHAT THEY CALL THEIR MEN WHO HAVE BEEN PUT IN PRISON, INCLUDING G. YUMBU AND S. KILENGA, "MEMBER OF THE "REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE" AND THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE" OF THE "PEOPLES REVOLUTIONARY PARTY OF THE CONGO".
2. THE PAYMENT OF 200,000 POUNDS STERLING.
3. MILITARY MATERIAL OF VARIOUS SORTS (CANNONS AND RIFLES) AS WELL AS BULLETS IN THE QUANTITY OF A NUMBER OF HUNDREDS OF THOUSANDS.

THE GOVERNMENT HAS COMPLETELY REFUSED ALL THESE DEMANDS. CONCERNING THE FIRST DEMAND THE GOVERNMENT WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN THE FOLLOWING: AS IS KNOWN, IN TANZANIA THERE ARE MANY REFUGEES FROM NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES. THE POLICY OF TANZANIA CONCERNING REFUGEES IS KNOWN VERY CLEARLY, IT IS NOT TO ALLOW REFUGEES FROM NEIGHBOURING SELF-GOVERNING COUNTRIES TO ENGAGE IN THEIR POLITICAL ACTIVITIES HERE. AT THE SAME TIME IT IS OUR POLICY NOT TO RETURN REFUGEES TO THEIR COUNTRIES UNLESS THEY THEMSELVES WANT IT AND AGREE.

FROM TIME TO TIME THE GOVERNMENT HAS RECEIVED COMPLAINTS FROM SOME OF THE NEIGHBOURING COUNTRIES CONCERNING VARIOUS REFUGEES. THE GOVERNMENT INVESTIGATES THE TRUTH OF THESE COMPLAINTS, AND DURING THIS INVESTIGATION THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTS THE PEOPLE WHO ARE THUS DOUBTED OR COMPLAINED ABOUT. THIS WAS FIRST DEMAND.

IT WILL BE REMEMBERED THAT ON APRIL 26 OF THIS YEAR THE GOVERNMENT RELEASED VARIOUS PEOPLE FROM JAIL. AMONG THOSE RELEASED WERE THOSE NAMED IN THE FIRST DEMAND. THE PROCEDURE FOR RELEASING FROM JAIL TOOK A WHILE, AND IN FACT WAS ONLY COMPLETED VERY RECENTLY, ALL WERE FREED, INCLUDING B. KILENGA. SOME OF THEM HAVE ALREADY LEFT TANZANIA.

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BUT YESTERDAY, WHEN PRESIDENT NYERERE RECEIVED NEWS OF THE DEMANDS OF THESE BANDITS, HE DECIDED THAT THEY SHOULD BE SEIZED: THEY HAVE BEEN SEIZED: AND IT IS NOT THE INTENTION OF THE GOVERNMENT TO RELEASE THEM. THE GOVERNMENT OF TANZANIA WISHES TO INSIST THAT THE MEN WHOSE RELEASE WAS DEMANDED HAD ALREADY BEEN FREED, BUT THE DEMAND BY MEANS OF BANDITRY HAS CAUSED THOSE WHO HAD NOT YET LEFT TANZANIA TO BE SEIZED ONCE AGAIN. UNQUOTE.

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